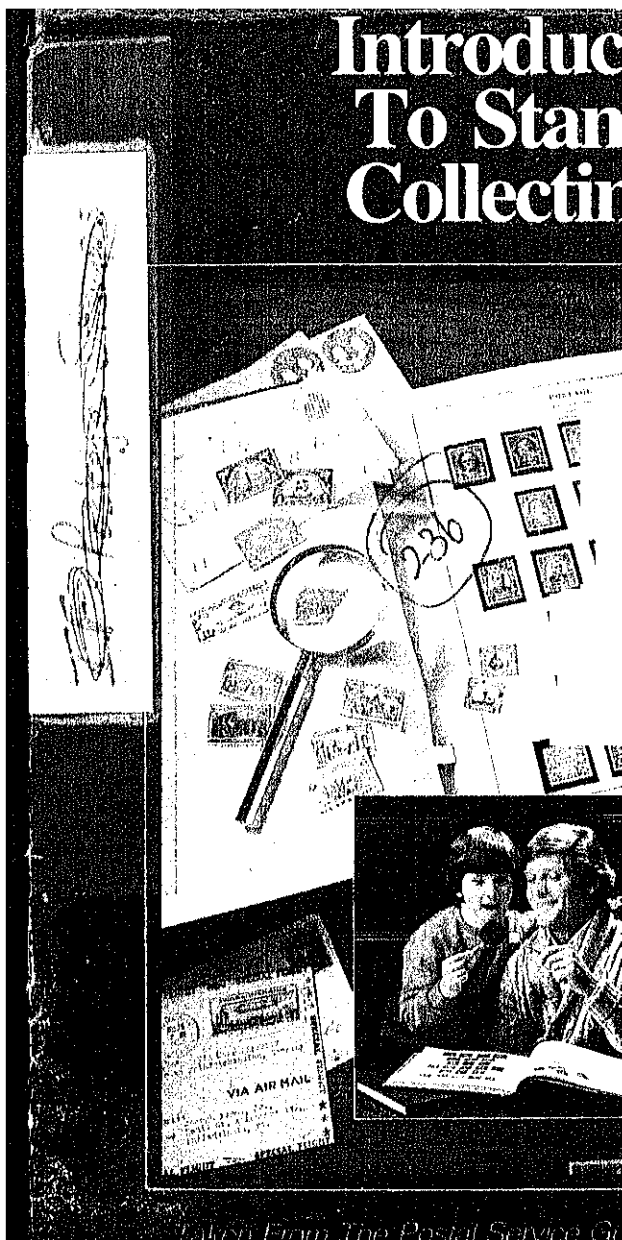


# Introduce To Stamp Collecting



*Taken From The Postal Service Guide*

# Introduction To Stamp Collecting.



## INTRODUCTION TO STAMP COLLECTING

Suppose someone asked you, "What is the most popular hobby in the world?" Since you're reading this book, you can probably guess the answer. That's right. It's stamp collecting. In the United States alone, about 22 million people are stamp collectors. And there are millions more around the world.

What makes stamps so fascinating? Some people think of stamps as tiny windows on the world. Most countries have stamps that show people or things or events that their citizens think are very important, or valuable, or beautiful. So when you look at a postage stamp, you learn something about the country it comes from.

Another reason people like to collect stamps is that many stamps are really works of art. Talented artists and photographers design the stamps. They are printed with great care and skill. Having a collection of beautiful stamps is like having an art gallery of your own.

Another thing that makes stamp collecting so popular is that there is no special age for it. You can enjoy stamp collecting just as much when you're 70 years old as when you're 10. In stamp collecting, you never run out of something to do. If you started now, and collected stamps for the rest of your life, you'd probably not be able to collect all the stamps in the world. The first postage stamp was issued in 1840. Since then, hundreds of thousands of different stamps have been issued by the countries of the world. But rather than trying to collect as many different kinds of stamps from as many places as you can, you'll probably find some types of stamps that are particularly interesting to you—and concentrate on collecting those.

Stamps can help with schoolwork. They can be used in special projects in classes like history, geography, and science. Also, stamp collecting is a merit badge activity for Scouts.

Stamp collecting doesn't have to be an expensive hobby. Of course, you could spend many thousands of dollars on stamps, but you can also be a collector without spending much money at all.

You can start out by asking your family and your friends to save used stamps for you. Just ask them to save the used stamps on envelopes they receive in the mail at their homes or businesses. As you gather stamps, you'll want to put them in order so you can show them to other people. A ring binder with loose leaf paper can be your first stamp album. But don't paste or tape your stamps into the album! That would destroy their value.

You'll find out how to handle your stamps throughout this section. But first, look at the next page. There you'll discover some stamps that are very famous or very rare. If you are just starting to collect stamps, this bit of history will give you a feeling for the past and for some of the interesting stories you'll discover as you continue collecting.

## TYPES OF STAMPS

Many people who know about stamp collecting suggest that you shouldn't decide right away what kind of stamps you are going to collect. At first, they say, just get together as many different stamps as you can. United States stamps. Stamps from some other countries. Stamps that feature special subjects—birds, dogs, famous women, or Scouts, for example. (Stamps of this type are called *topicals*, because they are about one *topic*.) Then, after you've been collecting for a while, you'll have a better idea about what kind of stamps you want to specialize in. Just be sure to pick a type that has a lot of stamps, so you'll be able to get enough for a good-sized collection. U.S. commemoratives are an easy way to start.

**Regular or Definitive Stamps** These are the stamps you'll find on most mail. They are printed in unlimited quantities and sold by the Postal Service for long periods of time—several years, usually.



Regular or Definitive

**Commemorative Stamps** These stamps are issued to honor an important event, person, or special subject. They are usually larger and more colorful than definitives. They are sold for only a certain length of time—a few months, maybe, and are printed in limited quantities.

**Coil Stamps** These stamps are issued in rolls. Each stamp has two straight edges and two perforated edges.



Coil

Commemorative

**Airmail Stamps** U.S. airmail stamps are used for sending mail overseas.

**Postage Due Stamps** Postage due stamps are put on mail at the post office to show that the postage already paid was not enough. The amount shown on the stamp must be paid by the receiver of the mail.



Airmail



Postage Due

**Special Delivery Stamps** These stamps were sold to the sender for extra-fast delivery of the letter or package. They are not currently being produced by the Postal Service.



Special Delivery

## WHAT KIND OF ALBUM?

A simple ring binder with loose-leaf pages will do very nicely for your first album. But after a while you may want to buy a special stamp album. It's usually best to buy an album with loose-leaf pages. Then you can add more pages as your collection grows.

There is a kind of album that does not have pictures of the stamps that are to go on the pages. It just has plastic pockets on the pages. This type of album is called a *stock book*. The pages can be placed in a binder. You can buy as many pages as you need to hold your stamps.

### How to Remove Stamps from Covers

To get stamps off paper, you'll need a small pan with some warm (not hot) water in it, some newspapers or paper towels, and your tongs. Place a few stamps face down in the water. Wait a little while, until the stamps float off the paper. The stamps will sink to the bottom. The paper will float. As soon as the stamps are free, lift them out with the tongs, one by one. Place them face down on the newspaper or paper towel. If they dry flat, you can put them in your album. Follow carefully the next directions. If the stamps are curled up when they are dry, put them between the pages

of a telephone directory or another big, heavy book. Put another heavy book or some other kind of weight on top. Leave the stamps overnight. The next day they should be flat and ready to place in your album.

### Putting Stamps in Your Album

You can use either folded or unfolded hinges to put stamps in your album. The shiny side is the gummed side. If you are using a folded hinge, lightly touch your tongue to the short side. Then, press the short side to the back of the stamp. Next, while holding the stamp with your tongs, touch your tongue to the long side of the hinge. Now put the stamp in its place on the album page, pressing it down with a blotter. (*Never* handle stamps with your fingers. Even if your hands are clean, oil from your skin may damage the stamps.) Finally, gently lift the corners of the stamp with the tongs to be sure it has not stuck to the page.

If you are collecting unused (called *uncancelled* or *mint*) stamps, you should use plastic mounts to put them in your album. Mounts will protect your stamps better than hinges. A mount is a small envelope that covers the whole stamp. It keeps air, grease, and dirt from damaging the stamp.



## EQUIPMENT FOR STAMP COLLECTING

Suppose you have begun collecting stamps—from friends, family, businesses, and visiting the post office to look for new U.S. issues. You also have some kind of album. What else will you need for your hobby?

**A. Tongs** for moving a stamp from one place to another, especially when handling unused stamps, to prevent damage.

**B. Hinges** for attaching stamps to the pages of your album. Hinges come either folded or unfolded.

**C. Mounts** are small plastic envelopes. They cost more money than hinges, but are necessary to protect unused stamps.

**D. A package of glassine** (glass-ene) envelopes to hold different kinds of stamps until you are

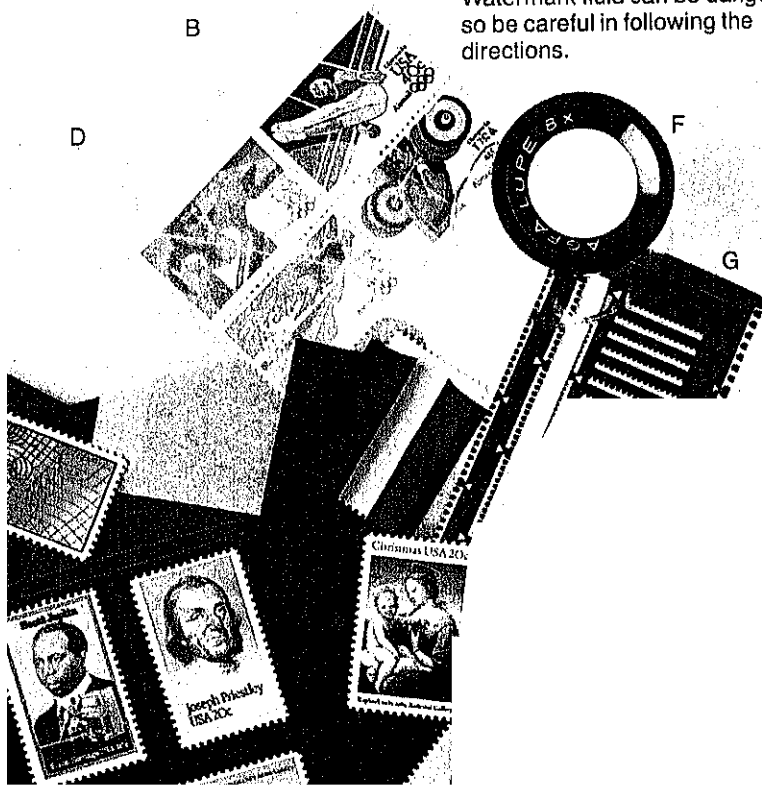
ready to put them in an album. Glassine is a special kind of thin paper that keeps grease and air from damaging stamps.

**E. Stamp catalog** to help you identify stamps and give you other information about them, including their value, used and unused.

**F. Magnifying glass**, four- or six-power, to help you distinguish stamps that seem to be the same.

**G. Perforation gauge** to help you identify stamps. It is used to measure the size and number of perforations (cuts or holes along the edges) on stamps.

**H. Watermark fluid and a watermark tray** of black glass or plastic. The stamp is placed face down in the tray and covered with a few drops of the watermark fluid. Then the watermark shows up. Watermark fluid can be dangerous, so be careful in following the directions.



# STAMP VOCABULARY

**Adhesive** A gummed stamp made to be attached to mail.

**Aerophilately** The hobby of collecting airmail stamps, covers and other postal materials that are delivered by balloon, airplane, or other types of aircraft.

**APS** Abbreviation for American Philatelic Society.

**Approvals** Stamps sent by a dealer to a collector for examination. Approvals must either be bought or returned to the dealer within a certain time.

**ATA** Abbreviation for American Topical Association.

**Autographed Cover** A cover sheet or envelope signed by a person who had something to do with the event that is being commemorated—for example, the pilot of the plane that carried the material. Or an envelope addressed to a famous person, and signed by that person.

**Block** An attached group of stamps at least two stamps high and two stamps wide.

**Booklet Pane** A small sheet of stamps especially cut and printed to be sold in booklets.

**Cachet** (ka-shay') A design on a first day cover (envelope).

**Cancellation** A mark placed on a stamp to show that the stamp has been used.

**Centering** The position of the design on a postage stamp. On perfectly centered stamps the design is exactly in the middle of the stamp.

**Coils** Stamps issued in rolls for use in dispensers, affixers or vending machines.

**Commemoratives** Stamps that honor anniversaries, important people, or special events. Commemoratives are usually sold for only a certain length of time.

**Condition** The state of a stamp in regard to such things as centering, freshness, color, gum, and hinge marks.

**Cover** The envelope or wrapping in which a letter has been sent through the mail.

**Definitives** Regular issues of stamps—not commemoratives. Regular issues are usually sold over long periods of time.

**Face Value** The value of a stamp as printed on the stamp.

**First Day Cover** An envelope with a new stamp and a cancellation showing the date the stamp was first sold.

**Gum** The adhesive on the back of a stamp.

**Hinges** Small strips of paper gummed on one side and used by collectors to put their stamps in albums.

**Imperforate Stamps** Stamps printed in sheets without perforations or other means of separating them. Users had to cut the stamps apart with scissors or a knife. These stamps were usually early issues. They were printed before machines to make perforations had been invented.

**Mint Sheet** A sheet of unused stamps.

**Mint Stamp** A postage stamp that is in the same condition as when it was purchased from a post office.

**Overprint** A regular issue stamp that has some printing on top of the original design. Sometimes stamps are overprinted when there has been a change of government or when one country takes over another in a war.

**Pane** Part of an original large printed sheet of stamps. Sheets are cut into panes so that they are easier to handle and sell at post offices.

**Pen Cancellation** A cancellation made before modern post office equipment was used. Postmasters drew a line in ink across stamps, initialed them, or wrote their names on them.

**Perforations** Lines of small cuts or holes between two rows of stamps so that the stamps are easy to separate.

**Philately** (fi-lat'-e-l-ee) The collecting and study of postage stamps and other postal material.

**Plate** The metal base from which stamps are printed.

**Plate Block** (or number plate block) A block of stamps with the plate number or numbers in the margin.

**Postal Stationery** Envelopes, postal cards, aerogrammes, and wrappers with stamps printed or embossed on them.

**Postmark** A mark put on envelopes and other mailing pieces, showing the date and the name of the post office where it was mailed.

**Postmaster Provisionals** Stamps made by local postmasters. They were used before the government of the country began issuing stamps, or when the post office ran out of regular stamps.

**Precancels** Stamps with cancellations applied before the material was mailed.

**Reissue** An official reprinting of a stamp that was no longer being printed.

**Revenue Stamps** Stamps issued for use in collecting taxes on special papers or products. Not used for postage.

**Selva** The paper around panes of stamps. Sometimes called the margin.

**Se-tenant** An attached pair, strip or block of stamps which differ in value, design or surcharge.

**Surcharge** An overprint which alters or restates the face value or denomination of the stamp to which it is applied.

**Tagging** Marking stamps with chemicals to be read by machines that sort mail and turn letters face-up for cancellation.

**Thin Spot** A thinning of the paper on the back of a stamp where a hinge was carelessly removed.

**Tied On** A stamp is "tied on" when the cancellation or postmark goes across the stamp to the envelope.

**Topicals** A group of stamps all with the same subject—space travel, for example.

**Unused** A stamp with or without original gum that has no cancellation or other sign of use.

**Used** A stamp that has been cancelled.

**Want List** A list of stamp numbers or philatelic items needed by a collector.

**Watermark** A design or pattern pressed into paper during its manufacture.



Overprint



Precancel



Perforate



Se-tenant



Imperforate



Coils



Surcharge



## SPECIALTY COLLECTING

Specialty collecting hasn't anything to do with the subject matter of the stamps you collect. (Collecting stamps that have a particular subject is called **topical** collecting.) A specialty collection is a particular form of stamps, such as:

**Blocks of Four** A square block of four unused (mint), unseparated stamps, with two stamps above and two below. A block can come from anywhere on a sheet of stamps. This is the easiest block to collect.

**Plate Blocks** Usually plate blocks are four corner stamps with the printing plate number in the margin (selvage) of the sheet. On January 1, 1981, the Postal Service started a new plate number system. Each color plate first used in the production of a stamp is represented by a number 1 in the group of numbers in the margin. Whenever a plate is worn out and replaced during the printing process, a number 2 replaces the number 1. The color of the number is the same as the color of the plate it stands for.

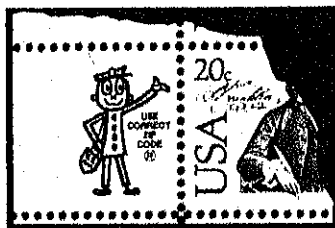
**Copyright Blocks** The U.S. Postal Service now copyrights all new stamp designs. The copyright C in a circle, followed by "United States Postal Service" or "USPS" and the year, appears in the margin of each sheet of stamps. The first copyright notice appeared January 6, 1978, in the margin of sheets of the Carl Sandburg stamp. Most copyrights are collected in blocks of four.

**Booklet Panes** Stamp booklets were first issued in 1898. Usually six or more of the same stamps are on a page, called a pane. Several pages of stamps are stapled in a cover. Most collections are of an entire pane.

**Covers** Covers (envelopes) stamped and postmarked with the date of the stamp's first day of issue are collected by a large number of people. On page 20 you'll find more information about first day covers and how to order them.

**Souvenir Cards** These 6" x 8" cards are issued as souvenirs of the philatelic (stamp collecting) events. They are distributed by the United States Postal Service, or the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Some are available cancelled. They cannot be used for postage. Of special interest to American stamp collectors is the annual souvenir card for National Stamp Collecting Month each October, first issued in 1981.

**Mr. ZIP Blocks** The Zoning Improvement Plan—better known as ZIP Code—helps the Postal Service handle and deliver mail quickly. A Mr. ZIP cartoon and slogan were first printed on the Sam Houston stamp of 1964. Mr. ZIP blocks have become quite popular with collectors.



## STAMP CLUBS

The U.S. Postal Service encourages people to collect stamps and helps them with their hobby. One of the ways it does this is through the Benjamin Franklin Stamp Clubs. These are clubs that are sponsored by the U.S. Postal Service in schools and libraries across the country. They are for students in third through seventh grade.

Benjamin Franklin Stamp Clubs were first started in 1974. Since then more than 5 million students have been introduced to stamp collecting through these clubs. There are about 50,000 Ben Franklin Stamp Clubs now. Why are these clubs named after Benjamin Franklin? Because he was a leader in organizing our postal system. He was the first Postmaster General, in 1775.



1474

### **How does a Benjamin Franklin Stamp Club get started?**

At the beginning of the school year, a person who works for the U.S. Postal Service in your area telephones schools and libraries to see if they are interested in having a stamp club. If the answer is yes, the person goes to the school or library to tell the teachers, librarians, and students about the Ben Franklin clubs. Sometimes a film about stamp collecting is shown. Usually a teacher, librarian, or parent agrees to be the club's advisor.

The U.S. Postal Service gives some materials to the Benjamin Franklin Stamp Clubs. Each of the members gets a free Treasury of Stamps album every year. This album has places for most of the new U.S. postage stamps that will be issued during the school year. Each member also gets a membership card. And every month during the school year, a newsletter called *Stamp Fun* is sent to the club. The advisor gets other free materials to help get the club started and keep it going. Films, slide-tape programs, and filmstrips are also available free from the Postal Service. The Postal Service representative will give other help to the club as it needs it.

### **What are some activities of the Ben Franklin Stamp Clubs?**

If possible, the club meets every week. One of the most important activities, of course, is collecting, showing, and trading stamps. The club might arrange to have a stamp show. There might be a trip to visit a post office. Older stamp collectors in the community might visit the club, show their collections, and talk about them. Stamp dealers are often invited to meet with the clubs.

A new activity of the Benjamin Franklin Stamp Clubs is the Pen Pal Program. Clubs that want to write letters to other Ben Franklin clubs send their club names, addresses, and identification numbers to the Benjamin Franklin Stamp Club headquarters in Washington, D.C. A club can say in which states it wants Ben Franklin club pen pals. Then headquarters will send to the club addresses of pen pals in those states. Clubs write letters to their pen pal clubs about their activities. They also exchange "want lists" of stamps members need for their collections. Stamps can be traded or even bought this way.

## STAMP CONDITION

The value of a stamp depends mostly on two things: how rare it is—that is, how few of them there are—and what condition it's in. You can get an idea of how rare a stamp is by the price listed for it in a catalog. But a stamp may sell for more or less than the catalog price, depending on its condition. A very rare stamp may be quite expensive even though it's in poor condition. For a while anyway, you'll probably be collecting stamps that aren't very expensive. But still, you should try to get stamps that are in the best condition you can.

Here are some of the things to look for when you are judging the condition of a stamp. Look at the front of the stamp. Are the colors bright? Or is the stamp dirty, stained, or faded? Is the design in the center of the paper, or is it a little crooked or off to the side? Are the edges in good condition? Or are some of the perforations missing? A stamp with a light cancellation mark is in better condition than one with heavy marks across it.

Now look at the back of the stamp. Is there a thin spot in the paper? It may have been caused by careless removal of paper or a hinge. Can you see marks from hinges? Stamps that have the original gum and have never been hinged are more valuable.

Stamp dealers put stamps into categories according to their condition. The worst is "Poor" or "Spacefiller." Most stamps you see will be in the categories "Superb," "Fine," and "Good." You can look at the examples on the next page to see the differences among stamps in these big categories.

Catalog prices listed in *The Postal Service Guide to U.S. Stamps* are for used and unused stamps in Fine condition that have been hinged. A stamp that has not been hinged and has excellent centering and color will cost more. A stamp in less than Fine condition that has been heavily cancelled will cost less than the catalog price.

You may see a stamp listed as mint. A mint stamp is one that is in the same condition as it was when purchased from the post office. An unused stamp is one that has not been cancelled. It may not have any gum on it or it may be damaged in some way. Stamps in mint condition are usually more valuable than in unused condition.



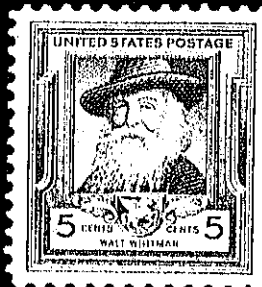
Light Cancel-Very Fine



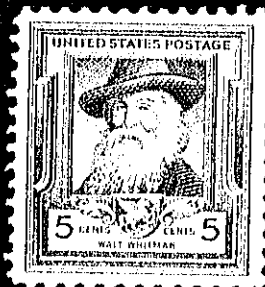
Medium Cancel-Fine



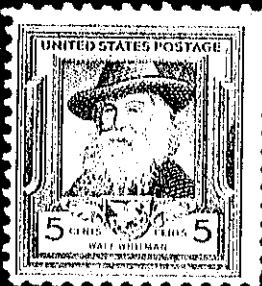
Heavy Cancel



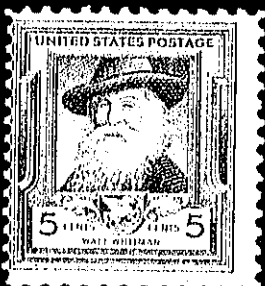
Superb



Very Fine



Fine



Good

## A SHORT HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES MAIL

These four colorful stamps were issued in 1975 to celebrate the 200th birthday of the U.S. Postal Service. They show an early stagecoach and a modern trailer truck, old and new locomotives, an early mail plane and a jet, and a satellite for sending mailgrams. All have been carriers of the mail in this country during the past 200 years.



1572 - 1575

But, of course, people had been sending and receiving mail long before Ben Franklin became this country's first Postmaster General. About 4,000 years ago, a system of writing was first developed in countries around the Mediterranean Sea. The writing was cut into soft clay tablets. Then the tablets were baked and hardened. Sometimes the writing was a message to someone, and the tablets were carried by runners. The messengers' job became a little easier after the Egyptians began making a kind of paper out of the papyrus plant about 2400 B.C. Papyrus was easier to write on—and easier to carry. It was the most common writing material for 3,000 years.

The Romans developed some of the best methods of travel and correspondence in ancient times. Their mail system was so good that they had messenger stations every five to twelve miles. Sometimes the messengers rode one horse and had another to carry letter bags. Ships, too, carried mail across the Mediterranean to other parts of the Roman empire.

The Chinese emperor Kublai Khan built a postal system with 10,000 stations that were connected by good roads. The unusual thing about the Khan's system was that it could be used for private letters as well as for government mail. Most other systems of that time could be used only to carry mail sent by rulers, military commanders, and government officials. Of course, if you were an ordinary citizen, your letter went by slow-moving camel, while the Khan's went by swift horses. But at least the mail was delivered.

The Aztec and Inca Indians also had a delivery service that was used by the public. They didn't have horses, so runners carried the knotted cords that had the message in a kind of code.

In 1533 in England, King Henry VIII established regular postal routes and schedules. Private citizens could send letters by this service, but only if there was room in the bag after all the government mail was put in. And then the official mail went free. The private letters had to pay for the entire postal service. This made sending a letter very costly.

When colonists first settled in North America, there was no regular mail service. What little communication there was went between the new settlements and the countries the colonists had come from. That meant mail

had to be carried by ships across the Atlantic Ocean. Government mail was carried by warships. Private citizens sent letters and packages with captains of trading ships. In 1639, Fairbank's Tavern in Boston was named as the place in Massachusetts where the transatlantic mail was to be collected.

The need for transportation of mail grew as the colonies grew. Several colonial governments set up postal services in cooperation with the British government. But these early postal services were not dependable. Sometimes the mail ships sailed when they were supposed to. Sometimes they didn't. Riders and mail coaches faced many dangers and delays.

As new types of transportation were developed, the mail services used them. Steamboats carried mail on the big rivers. By the 1830s, railroads began carrying mail.

About this time, back in England, Rowland Hill had an idea about the postal service. He was an inventor and teacher. His idea was that letters should be charged for by how much they weighed, not by the distance they were carried. For two years he argued for the "penny post." A fee of one penny would take a half-ounce letter to any part of the kingdom. And the person who sent the letter would pay the penny, not the person who received it. Finally, Hill's program was made into law. He was appointed to be in charge of the new service. So the first gummed postage stamp came into being. It was the "Penny Black," called that because it cost a penny, and it was black in color.

Five years later, in 1845, the Congress of the United States set new postal rates that were much like those in England. And on July 1, 1847, there was the first issue of U.S. postage stamps. The brown 5-cent stamp had a picture of Benjamin Franklin. The black 10-cent stamp showed George Washington. These stamps were not perforated. This means they did not have lines of holes between the rows of stamps. The user had to cut them apart. Before the U.S. stamps were issued, postmasters in some places had their own stamps printed. These stamps are called "postmasters' provisionals," and they are very valuable.

As settlers moved westward across the United States, attempts were made to set up a regular mail service from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast. The most famous overland mail service was the Pony Express. Relay stations were set up every 15 miles. There the riders got fresh horses.

The first western Pony Express trip was in April, 1860. A rider left St. Joseph, Missouri, on April 3, and the mail arrived in San Francisco, California, eleven days later. This service lasted only a year and a half. When the telegraph line across the country was completed, the Pony Express stopped.



1154

After the Civil War there were several improvements in mail service. In large cities, letter carriers began delivering mail to people's homes and businesses. Before that, a person had to go to the post office to pick up mail. Also, letter boxes were placed on street corners so that people could easily mail letters.

A new fast railroad mail service carried mail by train even to small towns. The mail went from St. Louis, Missouri, to San Francisco in five days—half as long as it took the Pony Express. Even if the train didn't stop at a town, mail was

exchanged. A letter bag was handed by a postal worker to another postal worker on the train. And a letter bag was handed off the train to the postal worker standing beside the track. The train slowed, but didn't stop. Later, cranes were developed to help in the exchanging of mail with a moving train. The Fast Mail trains began in 1875 and continued in service until the United States entered World War I in 1917. These trains actually had post office cars.

One of the problems the postal service has had is keeping costs down while continuing to give dependable, fast service. In an effort to keep the price of stamps down, the federal government's Bureau of Engraving and Printing began printing all stamps in 1893. Before that, stamps were printed by private companies.

During the 1890s rural free delivery of mail was started. Until that time, people who did not live in cities, but on farms and in the countryside, had to go to the post office for their mail. In those days, more than half the American people lived in these rural areas. At first the rural carriers delivered mail with a horse and wagon. But beginning in 1902, automobiles were used more and more.

For city mail service, many kinds of transportation have been used. There have been postal street cars, in which the mail was collected and sorted. Some big cities had pneumatic tube lines. Mail was moved by air pressure through the tubes between main post offices and smaller ones. In New York and San Francisco postal boats picked up foreign mail from mail steamers in the harbor and took it to a nearby railroad. And there have been a few postal subway systems, in which mail was moved through underground passages. But since the 1950s, trucks have been the most popular way to move mail on the ground.

After the automobile, the next great advance in carrying the mail was the airplane. During World War I the airplane proved that it could be a means of transportation. After the war, airmail service was started. The planes used for the first airmail service were military training planes called Curtiss Jennies. The 24-cent airmail stamp issued in 1918 shows a Curtiss Jonny in flight. This stamp became one of the most famous because of a mistake. One sheet of the stamps was printed with the plane flying upside down. A recent catalog priced one of these stamps (#C3a) at \$145,000!

The first airmail pilots had to have been daredevils. They often had engine trouble or ran into bad weather. The landing fields didn't have lights, and they had only road maps to fly by. Charles A. Lindbergh was one of those first airmail pilots. He flew a route



C10

between Springfield, Illinois, and St. Louis, Missouri. In 1927 he became famous for a private flight he made—the first nonstop flight from New York to Paris, made by a person flying alone. Other airmail-carrying craft shown on stamps include a dirigible, a "flying boat," propeller airplanes, and a jet. In 1977, airplanes became the standard way to move mail from city to city. Since then, it has not been necessary to buy a special airmail stamp to have your letter carried by this super-fast transportation. Today, machines, computers, and electronics help postal workers handle and carry mail.

## FIRST DAY COVERS

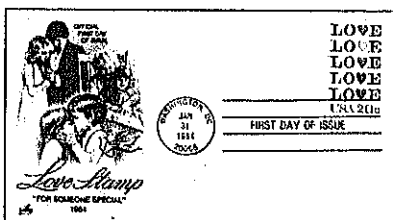
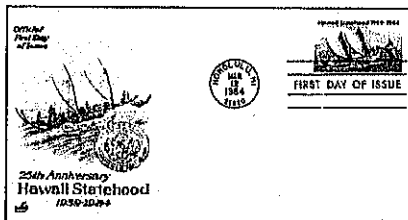
A first day cover is an envelope that has a new stamp cancelled with the date of the first day it was issued. For each new postal stamp or stationery issue, the Postal Service names one post office that is related in some way to the subject of the stamp. First day cover ceremonies are conducted at this post office to honor the subject of the stamp.

Here's how you can get a first day cover through the Postal Service. You will get faster service if you buy the stamp yourself, and then send it to the first day post office for cancellation. When a new stamp goes on sale at your post office (usually the next day after the first day of issue), you can buy one and put it on your own envelope. Put the address in the lower right-hand corner. Leave plenty of room for the stamp and the cancellation. You can use a peelable address label if you don't want the address to remain on the envelope. Put your first day envelope inside another envelope. Mail it to "Customer Affixed Envelopes" in care of the postmaster of the first day city. The post office will cancel your envelope and return it to you through the mail. You may do this for 30 days after the issue date of the stamp.

Or, you can send an envelope addressed to yourself, but without a stamp. Put the addressed envelope into another envelope. Address the outside envelope to the name of the stamp, in care of the postmaster of the first day city. You must also include payment for the stamp or stamps that are to be put on your envelope. Do not send cash. You may send a check, a bank draft, or a U.S. Postal money order. Make it out to the U.S. Postal Service.

Do not send requests more than 60 days prior to the issue date. Usually you will receive your cancelled cover within three weeks after the first day of issue. If you don't, write to the postmaster of the first day city. Tell how the envelope was addressed, what kind of design or cachet it had, and how many stamps were ordered. If you ever get a first day cover that is damaged, send it back to the postmaster. A new one will be sent to you.

The U.S. Postal Service tries to get the first day covers into the mail just as soon as possible. To do this, it sends a special team of workers to a first day post office. Their job is just to work on first day covers. Of course, they can't do all that work on one day. Often it takes weeks. When there's an especially popular stamp issue, it may take even longer than usual to get all the first day covers out. For example, for the 1982 State Birds and Flowers issue 12,070,206 first day covers were cancelled.





## A Preview of

The next international philatelic exhibition to be held in the United States will be AMERIPEX '86 in, of course, 1986. These annual "world's fairs" of stamps come to America every ten years and provide a showcase for stamps and collections from all over the world.

To get a preview of the big show, we spoke with Les Winick, a well-known philatelic writer who is one of the original seven organizers of AMERIPEX. Mr. Winick writes a stamp column for the *Chicago Tribune* and is a contributing editor to *Linn's Stamp News*. A collector himself, Mr. Winick specializes in space and rocket issues and Icelandic stamps. He is the author of *Catalog of Soviet Space Stamps* and is currently working on a stamp identifier for The Washington Press.

**Q.** For the record, Mr. Winick, where and when will AMERIPEX be held?

**A.** AMERIPEX '86 is scheduled to open on May '22, 1986, at the O'Hare Exposition Center (near O'Hare International Airport) and will run for 11 days through June 1. We're especially happy about the Exposition Center because its 350,000 square feet will let us put on the largest philatelic exhibition ever held in North America. All of the events will be on one level in a space the size of six football fields.

16

**Q.** Who will be there?

**A.** We are expecting over 100,000 visitors to AMERIPEX from all over the world. At this point, 42 countries have appointed commissioners to develop exhibits at AMERIPEX, and many more are expected. A number of foreign postal administrations are planning to show here, and the U.S. Postal Service has extended invitations to 166 members of the Universal Postal Union to come and sell their stamps. Visitors will be able to purchase stamps from all over the world at face value in one place.

**Q.** What can visitors expect to see?

**A.** We expect in excess of 60,000 pages to be shown in over 4,000 frames displaying stamps and philatelic material from every area of philately and every part of the world. We have invited the Queen of England, the Smithsonian Institution, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the Prince of Monaco to exhibit from their collections. The USPS is planning a major exhibit on the history of the U.S. post, ranging from its origins to the modern era of telecommunications. Thurn and Taxis, a family that began scheduled postal service as early as the 15th century in Europe, will bring an exhibit on the origins of the mails, showing early postal artifacts. This will be the first time this exhibit has been shown outside of Europe. Fifty renowned philatelists have been invited to judge the philatelic competitions, and they have each

# ameripex '86

been invited to display stamps and covers from their private collections. Many of the most famous stamps in the world will be on exhibit at AMERIPEX. We are planning films, lectures and seminars on subjects as different as beginning stamp collecting, postal history and buying and selling at auctions. In fact, there should be so much activity at AMERIPEX that visitors won't know what to do first.

**Q.** Tell us about some of your youth-oriented programs.

**A.** Admission to AMERIPEX will be free to young people. We want to encourage young stamp collectors and hope to make AMERIPEX fun, comfortable and informative. The U.S. Postal Service is sponsoring exhibits by the Ben Franklin Stamp Clubs, exhibits that have been developed especially for AMERIPEX. These will include "hands-on" exhibits with computer terminals and souvenir printouts. Animated shows are planned, and free field trips for neighboring Ben Franklin Clubs will be scheduled. Special competitions for young stamp collectors will be held as well.

**Q.** Will visitors be able to buy philatelic material at AMERIPEX?

**A.** There will be two major selling areas for the USPS. One will be accessible to purchasers who wish to buy stamps and other philatelic items without having to enter the Exposition Center. There will also be a large indoor selling area for the same purpose. As I mentioned earlier, foreign postal administrations will be selling stamps from their countries at the exhibition. We will have a bourse of 300 stands where dealers will be offering old and new issues and where visitors can get their want lists filled. Of these, 24 "super-booths" have been sold to some of the largest stamp dealers in the world. In addition, a number of auctions will be held, all of them open to the public, where collectors can bid on rare and famous stamps. With so much gathered under one roof, AMERIPEX will offer an unparalleled opportunity for visitors to add different and interesting philatelic items to their collections.

**Q.** Do you have any parting thoughts for our readers?

**A.** AMERIPEX '86 will be the biggest philatelic show ever held in the U.S. All special events, auctions, films, lectures and exhibitions will be open to the public. We're enthusiastic about the response we've had so far and can assure visitors that there will be something of interest from every area of stamp collecting. I want to invite everyone to AMERIPEX in Chicago in 1986.

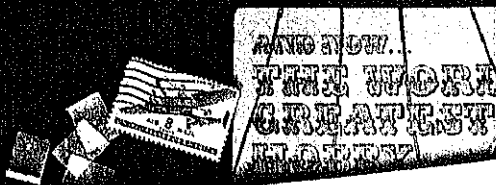
## STAMP COLLECTING KITS

### Discover the "Hobby of a Lifetime"

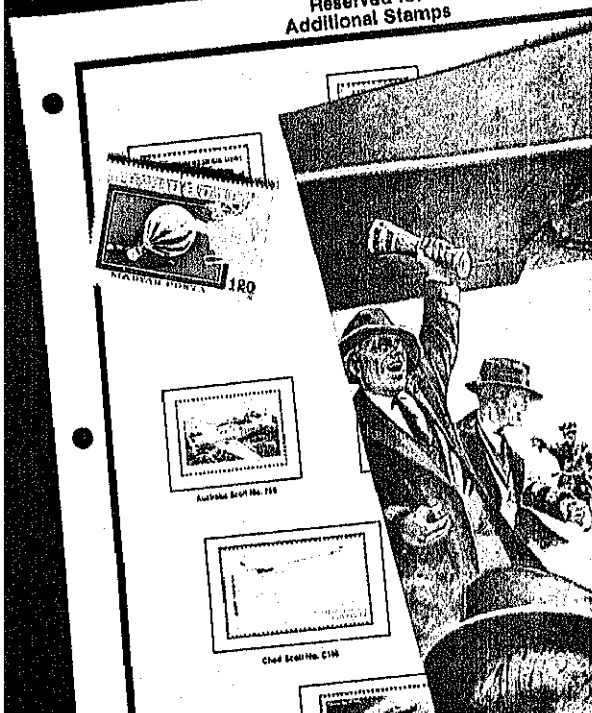
Stamp collecting! It's educational, exciting, challenging, and fun. You've heard about it and you're eager to join the ranks of 2 million Americans who enjoy the world's most popular hobby. But where do you start? The U.S. Postal Service Stamp Collecting Kits. Available at your local post office, these Kits offer an inexpensive introduction to the hobby.

Every USPS Kit contains four essential tools: a color booklet with background information and display space for each stamp; a collection of genuine, colorful stamps ready for mounting; a collection of self-adhesive hinges; and *Introduction to Stamp Collecting*.

Your local post office may have additional Stamp Collecting Kits shown here. Be sure to ask. Since availability may vary, check more than one post office.



Reserved for  
Additional Stamps

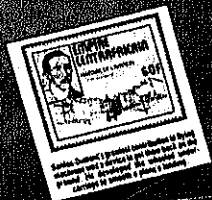




**USPS Stamp Collecting Kits** to be issued during the next few months include these interesting topics: Soccer, Costumes, Automobiles and The 1984 Summer Games.

**And in early 1985...** the 1985 U.S. Commemorative Stamp Collecting Kit will be available at your local post office with information on such 1985 issues as the Duck Decoys block of four and stamps honoring our Korean War Veterans and World War I Veterans.

**1984 United States Commemorative Stamp Collecting Kit** is now available at your local post office. It contains 7 U.S. commemorative stamps comprising 4 issues (Alaska, Winter Olympics, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and Carter G. Woodson), a full-color album describing all 1984 U.S. commemoratives, stamp mounts and the booklet *Introduction to Stamp Collecting*. \$3.00



**CONQUEST**

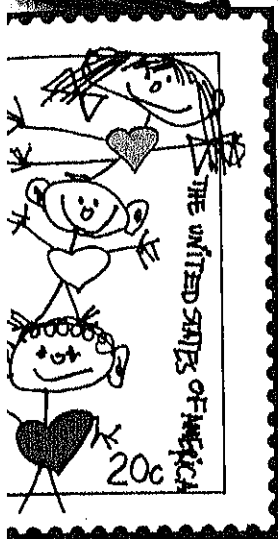
### Art Students Design Stamps

If you were to design a postage stamp, what would it look like? Last year thousands of art students around the country were invited to try their hands at designing stamps. The occasion was a national competition sponsored by the U.S. Postal Service. Two student-inspired designs would be chosen to appear on 1984 postage stamps. The response was overwhelming. More than half a million elementary and high school art students submitted drawings to the project.

The National Art Education Association did the preliminary judging. Stressing simplicity of design and skill of execution, members of the association narrowed the field to 2,000 entries. These were turned over to the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee which submitted 85 drawings to Postmaster General William F. Bolger for final consideration. He chose 33 honorable mentions, 8 semifinalists and 2 finalists whose work would actually appear on 1984 stamps.

The two finalists and eight semifinalists were invited to a ceremony at postal headquarters in Washington, D.C., where their artwork was unveiled. In congratulating the students, Bolger remarked, "The greatest resource this nation has is its young people, and it is important to nourish their spirits with encouragement of their artistic ability." All the students received a certificate of achievement, a philatelic gift and an enlargement of their design for display in their local post offices and schools.



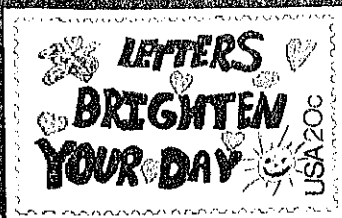


Finalist Molly LaRue, age 18, represented family unity with a series of stick figures whose bodies are red, white and blue hearts. The lettering of Molly's design was styled to match the artwork. Her drawing will be the basis of a 1984 stamp. She is a graduate of Shaker Heights High School in Shaker Heights, Ohio.



Finalist Danny LaBoccetta, age 8, created a cheerful Santa Claus with a sack of toys. Danny's drawing will appear on the 1984 contemporary issue.

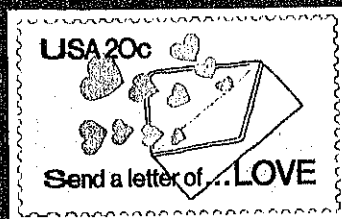
## The Semi-Finalists



Heather Gaucher, 11, from Spencer, Massachusetts, and a student at the Maple Street School, drew a bold, colorful message that says, "Letters Brighten Your Day."



Tommy Neyhard, 8, of Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, and a second grade student in the Bloomsburg Memorial Elementary School, drew a colorful steamboat.



Lori Vassil, 18, who graduated in June from Central High School in Scranton, Pennsylvania, designed a love stamp showing an envelope with bright hearts emerging from it. Lori plans to be a nurse.



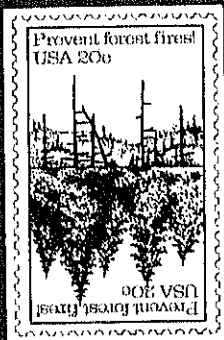
Jodie Booth, 13, of Cainsville, Missouri, and the daughter of a teacher of English in her school, the Cainsville R1 School, drew a black child and a white child with arms entwined and the moving message, "Friends Are Special."



Robin Malk, 18, who graduated in June from the Cresskill High School in Cresskill, New Jersey, featured a bright-eyed raccoon framed by holly leaves. She hopes to pursue an art career.



Shane Hillard, 6, was in kindergarten last year when he drew two bright red stick figures with the title "Love." Shane lives in Oquawka, Illinois, and attends Oquawka Elementary School.



Amber Evans, 17, and a senior this year at Upper Arlington High School in Columbus, Ohio, created an imaginary forest scene, with tree trunks reflected in a lake showing how they appeared before they were destroyed by fire.



Eddie Obuchowski, 9, a student at the Woodland Avenue School in Morristown, New Jersey, designed an imaginary view of the firmament. In addition to a fascination with space travel, he loves sports of all kinds.

Liquite



## COMMEMORATIVE MINT SETS

### Big Value for All Collectors

Service Commemorative Mint Sets are more than just a collection of commemorative stamps issued in one year—the sets are fun, interesting and valuable. Each year's complete set of commemoratives includes protective sleeves or individual plastic mounts to help preserve and protect the stamps. The attractive folders feature concise background on the commemoration, the stamp artists and other philatelic information. For the new collector in an absorbing, often lifelong, avocation, the sets are also valued by stamp enthusiasts as adjuncts to their own collections. Service Commemorative Mint Sets are available at your local post office.

#### BRIDGE

Lanes Photograph by Peter Steiner © 1981

Anniversary of the  
as the product of a  
A. and Washington  
tally figured while surveying  
for the companying the

1826: a century ago the  
in the North America and  
— setting across New  
at 1,000 ft. of the road  
r.s. Put one of the most  
SAR its gigantic stone  
— ribbon of the river  
if not River the ribbon.

translating an inverted wooden trestle provided a firm  
the solution which the two main towers rest, the  
later the Brooklyn Bridge. It still one of the most  
works of civil engineering in the Western Hemisphere.

Designer: John R. Roebling  
Brooklyn, New York  
May 17

1981  
10c  
Brooklyn Bridge  
— 1981

1981  
10c  
Martin Luther

1981  
10c  
Model of the River



**1983 Commemorative Mint Set**—The 1983 set consists of 26 issues totalling 47 separate stamps, including the 16 stamps issued during 1983 to commemorate the 1984 Olympic Games. Also notable in 1983: joint issues with Sweden and the Federal Republic of Germany, the Treaty of Paris which represents the last stamp in the Bicentennial issues, and new issues on the Black Heritage and American Sports series. \$12.50.

**1984 Commemorative Mint Set**—Consists of commemorative stamps comprising all 1984 issues, including blocks of four for the Winter Olympics, Orchids, the Summer Olympics, and Dogs. Also included are the Christmas stamps. \$10.25.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
MINT SET OF COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS  
1983

BADE RUTH

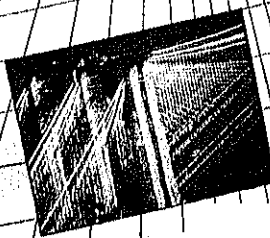
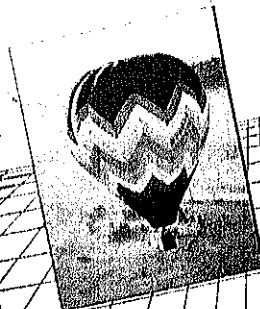


Babe Ruth's "Bambino" in the home of Babe Ruth, appears on a 1983 stamp. The stamp is part of the 1983 Commemorative Mint Set.

Babe Ruth—great Babe Ruth led the New York Yankees to seven World Series championships and set or tied 81 batting and pitching records in his 22 year career. His lifetime record of 714 home runs was unequaled for 39 years and his record of 50 home runs in a 134 game season has yet to be broken. He also gave generously of his time to charitable causes, especially when they concerned children.

The Babe Ruth stamp was issued in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of professional baseball's first All Star Game in which "Babe" played in 1933. This stamp is the third in the American Sports Series, which was begun in 1981. Other stamps in the Series honor golfer Bobby Jones and all-around athlete Duke Kahanamoku.

Designers: Dennis Le  
Hawthorn  
Chicago  
July 6



## Philatelic Societies

### American Air Mail Society

102 Arbor Rd.  
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077-3859

Specializes in aerophilately, and periodically presents the Conrath Award to a member of the society in the name of Walter Conrath, one of its founders.

### American First Day Cover Society

Mrs. Monte Eiserman  
Membership Chairman  
14359 Chadbourne  
Houston, TX 77079-6611

### American Philatelic Society

Box 8000  
State College, PA 16803-8000

A non-profit organization furnishing a full complement of services and resources for stamp collectors. Membership offers the following services: research library; expertizing; estate advisory; translation; a clearinghouse for theft information; speaker's bureau; and a monthly 96-page magazine, *The American Philatelist*, sent to over 50,000 members.

### American Society for Philatelic

Pages and Panels  
1138 Princeton Drive  
Richardson, TX 75081-3615

### American Stamp Dealer's Association

5 Dakota Dr  
Suite 102  
Lako Success, NY 11042-1109

Association of dealers engaged in every facet of philately, with eleven regional chapters nation wide. Sponsors national and local shows, seminars for member and non-member dealers, credit information service, monthly newsletter and ASDA membership directory.

### American Topical Association

P.O. Box 630  
Johnstown, PA 15907-0630

A service organization concentrating on the specialty of topical collecting. Offers handbooks on specific topics; an exhibition award; *Topical Time*, a bi-monthly publication dealing with topical interest areas; a slide and film loan service; information, translation, biography and sales services; and an heirs' estate service.

### Black American Philatelic Society

% Wall Robinson  
9101 Taylor Street  
Landover, MD 20785-2554

For collectors interested in the study of black Americans on postage stamps.

### Bureau Issues Association

4630 Greylock Street  
Boulder, CO 80301-4207

### Collectors Club, Inc.

22 East 35th Street  
New York, NY 10016-3606

Regular services include library and reading rooms, a publication and lectures on philatelic subjects. The group also honors a great American collector annually and actively supports national and international exhibitions.

### Council Of Philatelic Organizations

% COPO Secretary  
Post Office Box COPO  
State College, PA 16803-8340

A non-profit organization comprised of more than 400 national, regional and local stamp clubs, organizations, societies and philatelic business firms. The objective of COPO is to promote and encourage the hobby of stamp collecting. Membership is open only to organizations. COPO uses a variety of methods to promote stamp collecting including an on-going publicity campaign, a quarterly newsletter and joint sponsorship (with the USPS) of National Stamp Collecting Month.

### Errors, Freaks and Oddities Collectors Club

Box 1125  
Falls Church, VA 22041-0125  
Includes an exhibit critique service.

### Junior Philatelists of America

P.O. Box 15329  
San Antonio, TX 78212-8529

JPA provides a number of services including a bi-monthly newsletter, *The Philatelic Observer*; auction exchange; pen pal program; stamp identification services and study groups. JPA is run by and for stamp collectors 21 and under.

### Maximum Card Study Club

Bill Kelleher  
Box 375  
Bedford, MA 01730-0375

### Mobile Post Office Society

5030 Aspen Drive  
Omaha, NE 68157-2267

A non-profit organization concentrating on transit markings and the history of postal transit routes. The Society is engaged in documenting and recording transit postal history by publishing books, catalogs and monographs, as well as a semi-monthly journal.

### Modern Postal History Association

% Psychology Department  
Pace University  
Pleasantville, NY 10570-2799

### National Association of Precancel Collectors

5121 Park Blvd.  
Wildwood, NJ 08260-1454

### The Perflins Club

2163 Cumbre Place  
El Cajon, CA 92020-1005  
Send SASE for information.

**Philatelic Foundation**

270 Madison Ave  
New York, NY 10016-0656

A non-profit organization known for its excellent expertization service. The Foundation's broad resources, including extensive reference collections, 5,000-volume library and Expert Committee, provide collectors with comprehensive consumer protection. It also publishes educational information. Slide and cassette programs are available on such subjects as the Pony Express, Provisionals, Confederate Postal History and special programs for beginning collectors.

**Plate Block Collector Club**

Box 937  
Homestead, FL 33090-0937

**Plate Number Society**

9600 Colesville Rd.  
Silver Spring, MD 20901-3144

**Postal History Society**

Box 20  
Bayside, NY 11361-0020

**Post Mark Collectors Club**

Wilma Hinrichs  
4200 SE, Indianola Rd.  
Des Moines, IA 50320-1555

**Precancel Stamp Society**

David A. Coates, Secretary  
2500 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. # 829  
Washington, D.C. 20007-4561

**Souvenir Card Collectors Society**

P.O. Box 4155  
Tulsa, OK 74159-4155

**United Postal Stationery Society**

Mrs. J. Thomas  
Box 48  
Redlands, CA 92373-0601

**The United States Possessions Philatelic Society**

141 Lyford Drive  
Tiburon, CA 94920-1652

**The Universal Ship Cancellation Society**

P.O. Box 13  
New Britain, CT 06050-0013  
Specializing in naval ship cancellations.

**Souvenir Pages Price List**

(Please send self-addressed stamped envelope to receive current listings.)  
Charles D. Simmons  
P.O. Box 6238  
Buena Park, CA 90622-6238

**Noble Official Catalog of United States Bureau Precancels, 64th Edition**

P.O. Box 931  
Winter Park, FL 32789-0931

**Stamps of the World 1982 Catalogue**

Stanley Gibbons Publications. Available through dealers only. All the stamps of the world from 1840 to date. Over 1,900 pages feature more than 200,000 stamps (47,900 illustrations) from over 200 issuing countries.

**Commemorative Panel Price List**

(Please send self-addressed stamped envelope to receive current listings.)  
Frank Riolo  
P.O. Box 1540  
Delray Beach, FL 33447-1540

**Fleetwoods Standard First Day Cover Catalog**

Unicover Corporation  
Cheyenne, WY 82008-0001

**Harris Illustrated Postage Stamp Catalog**

H.E. Harris & Co., Inc.  
Boston, MA 02117-0810

**Minkus New World Wide Stamp Catalogue**

116 West 32nd Street  
New York, NY 10001-3284

**American Air Mail Catalogue**

American Air Mail Society  
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077-3859

**Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue**

911 South Vandemark Road  
Sydney, OH 45367-8959

**U.S. Postal Card Catalog, 1980**

Box 48  
Redlands, CA 92373-0601

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**Catalogs****Brookman Price List of U.S. Stamps**

91 South 9th Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-3295

**Catalogue of United States Souvenir Cards**

The Washington Press  
2 Vreeland Rd.  
Florham Park, NJ 07932-1587

**First Day Cover Catalogue (U.S.-U.N.)**

The Washington Press  
2 Vreeland Rd.  
Florham Park, NJ 07932-1587

**Perfins of the World**

9801 Dewey Drive  
Garden Grove, CA 92641-1344

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**Magazines and Newspapers****Linn's Stamp News**

Box 29  
Sidney, OH 45365-0029

**Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News**

Box 1660  
Portland, ME 04104-1660

**Minkus Stamp Journal**

41 West 25th Street  
New York, NY 10010-2021

**Scott's Monthly Stamp Journal**

911 South Vandemark Road  
Sydney, OH 45367-8959

**Stamps**

153 Waverly Place  
New York, NY 10014-3849

**Stamp Collector**

Box 10  
Albany, OR 97321-0006

**Stamp Review**

1839 Palmer Ave.  
Larchmont, NY 10538-3099

## PHILATELIC CENTERS

In addition to the more than 15,000 postal facilities authorized to sell philatelic products, the U.S. Postal Service also maintains more than 343 Philatelic Centers located in major population centers throughout the country.

These Philatelic Centers have been developed to serve stamp collectors and make it convenient for them to acquire an extensive range of all current postage stamps, postal stationery and philatelic products issued by the Postal Service.

All Centers listed here are located at the Main Post Office unless otherwise indicated.

### Alabama

351 North 24th Street  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
101 Holmes N.W.  
Huntsville, AL 35804  
250 St. Joseph  
Mobile, AL 36601  
1313 22nd Avenue  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

### Alaska

Downtown Station  
3rd & C Street  
Anchorage, AK 99510  
College Branch  
3350 College Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99708

### Arizona

Osborn Station  
3905 North 7th Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85013  
1501 South Cherrybell  
Tucson, AZ 85726

### Arkansas

30 South 6th Street  
Fort Smith, AR 72901  
310 East Street  
Jonesboro, AR 72401

600 West Capitol  
Little Rock, AR 72201

### California

200 Allston Way  
Berkeley, CA 94504  
Downtown Station  
135 East Olive Street  
Burbank, CA 91502  
315 G Street  
Davis, CA 95616  
8111 East Firestone  
Downey, CA 90241  
Cullen Station  
3801 Walnut Drive  
Eureka, CA 95501  
1900 E Street  
Fresno, CA 93706  
313 E. Broadway  
Glendale, CA 91209  
Hillcrest Station  
303 E. Hillcrest  
Inglewood, CA 90311

300 Long Beach Blvd.  
Long Beach, CA 90801  
300 N. Los Angeles St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Terminal Annex  
900 N. Alameda  
Los Angeles, CA 90052  
Village Station  
11000 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

El Viejo Station  
1125 I Street  
Modesto, CA 95354  
Civic Center Annex  
201 13th Street  
Oakland, CA 94612

211 Brooks  
Oceanside, CA 92054  
281 E. Colorado Blvd.  
Pasadena, CA 91109  
1647 Yuba St.  
Redding, CA 96001

1201 North Catalina  
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Downtown Station  
3890 Orange St.  
Riverside, CA 92501  
2000 Royal Oaks Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95813

Base Line Station  
1164 North E Street  
San Bernardino, CA 92410  
2535 Midway Drive  
San Diego, CA 92199  
7th and Mission Sts.  
San Francisco, CA 94101

1750 Meridian Drive  
San Jose, CA 95101  
Simms Station  
41 Simms Street  
San Rafael, CA 94901

Spurgeon Station  
615 North Bush  
Santa Ana, CA 92701  
836 Anacada Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93102

4245 West Lane  
Stockton, CA 95208  
15701 Sherman Way  
Van Nuys, CA 91408  
396 South California St.  
West Covina, CA 91790

### Colorado

1905 15th St.  
Boulder, CO 80302  
201 E. Pikes Peak  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901  
1823 Stout Street  
Denver, CO 80202  
241 N. 4th St.  
Grand Junction, CO 81501  
5733 South Prince Street  
Littleton, CO 80120

421 N. Main Street  
Pueblo, CO 81003

### Connecticut

141 Weston Street  
Hartford, CT 06101  
11 Silver Street  
Middletown, CT 06457  
141 Church Street  
New Haven, CT 06510  
27 Masonic Street  
New London, CT 06320  
421 Atlantic Street  
Stamford, CT 06904  
Stratford Branch  
3100 Main Street  
Stratford, CT 06497  
135 Grand Street  
Waterbury, CT 06701

### Delaware

55 The Plaza  
Dover, DE 19801  
Federal Station  
110 E. Main St.  
Newark, DE 19711  
11th and Market Streets  
Wilmington, DE 19850

### District of Columbia

Harriet Tubman  
Philatelic Center  
North Capitol Street and  
Massachusetts Avenue  
Washington, DC 20066  
Headsville Station  
National Museum of  
American History  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington, DC 20560  
L'Enfant Plaza Philatelic  
Center  
U.S. Postal Service  
Headquarters  
475 L'Enfant Plaza  
West, SW  
Washington, DC 20260  
National Visitors Center  
Union Station  
50 Massachusetts  
Ave., N.E.  
Washington, DC 20002  
Pavilion Postique  
Old Post Office  
Building  
1100 Pennsylvania  
Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20004

### Florida

824 Manatee Ave. West  
Bradenton, FL 33506  
100 South Bolcher Road  
Clearwater, FL 33515  
1900 West Oakland Park  
Boulevard  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310  
401 S.E. 1st Avenue  
Gainesville, FL 32601  
1801 Polk Street  
Hollywood, FL 33022  
1110 Kings Road  
Jacksonville, FL 32203  
210 North Missouri Ave.  
Lakeland, FL 33802  
118 North Bay Drive  
Largo, FL 33540  
2200 NW 72nd Avenue  
Miami, FL 33101

1200 Goodlette Rd. North  
Naples, FL 33940

400 Southwest First Ave.  
Ocala, FL 32678

46 East Robinson Street  
Orlando, FL 32801

1400 West Jordan Street  
Pensacola, FL 32501

3135 First Avenue North  
Saint Petersburg, FL  
33730

Open Air Station  
76 4th St. N.  
Saint Petersburg, FL  
33701

1661 Ringland Blvd.  
Sarasota, FL 33578

5201 Spruce Street  
Tampa, FL 33630

801 Clematis Street  
West Palm Beach, FL  
33401

### Georgia

115 Hancock Avenue  
Athens, GA 30601

Downtown Station  
101 Marietta Street  
Atlanta, GA 30301

Perimeter Branch  
4400 Ashford-  
Dunwoody Road  
Atlanta, GA 30346

Downtown Station  
3916 Milgen Road  
Columbus, GA 31908

364 Green Street  
Gainesville, GA 30501

451 College Street  
Macon, GA 31201

2 North Fahn Street  
Savannah, GA 31401

### Hawaii

3600 Aieale Street  
Honolulu, HI 96819

### Idaho

770 South 13th Street  
Boise, ID 83708

### Illinois

909 West Euclid Avenue  
Arlington Heights, IL  
60004

Moraine Valley Station  
7401 100th Place  
Bridgeview, IL 60455

1301 East Main Street  
Carbondale, IL  
62901

433 West Van Buren St.  
Chicago, IL 60607

Loop Station  
211 South Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60604

1000 East Oakton  
Des Plaines, IL 60018

1101 Davis St.  
Evanston, IL 60204

2350 Madison Ave.  
Granite City, IL 62040

2000 McDonough St.  
Joliet, IL 60436

901 Lake Street  
Oak Park, IL 60301

123 Indianwood  
Park Forest, IL 60466

5225 Harrison Ave.  
Rockford, IL 61125

211-19th Street  
Rock Island, IL 61201

Schaumburg Station  
450 W. Roselle Road  
Roselle, IL 60194

2105 E. Cook St.  
Springfield, IL 62703

Edison Square Station  
1520 Washington  
Waukegan, IL 60085

### Indiana

North Park Branch  
44923 1st Avenue  
Evansville, IN 47710

Fort Wayne Postal  
Facility  
1501 S. Clinton Street  
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

5530 Sohl Street  
Hammond, IN 46320

125 West South Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46206

2719 South Webster  
Kokomo, IN 46901

3450 State Road 26, E  
Lafayette, IN 47901

424 South Michigan  
South Bend, IN 46624

30 N. 7th Street  
Terre Haute, IN 47808

### Iowa

615 6th Avenue  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401

1165 Second Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50318

320 6th Street  
Sioux City, IA 51101

### Kansas

1021 Pacific  
Kansas City, KS 66110

6029 Broadmoor  
Shawnee Mission, KS  
66202

434 Kansas Avenue  
Topeka, KS 66603

Downtown Station  
401 North Market  
Wichita, KS 67202

### Kentucky

1088 Nadino Blvd.  
Lexington, KY 40511

St. Mathews Station  
4600 Shelbyville Road  
Louisville, KY 40207

### Louisiana

1724 Bank Drive  
Alexandria, LA 71301

1715 Odom St.  
Alexandria, LA 71301

750 Florida Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

1105 Moss Street  
Lafayette, LA 70501

3301 17th Street  
Metairie, LA 70004

501 Sterling Road  
Monroe, LA 71201

701 Loyola Avenue  
New Orleans, LA 70113

Vieux Carre Station  
1022 Iberville Street  
New Orleans, LA 70112

2400 Texas Avenue  
Shreveport, LA 71102

### Maine

40 Western Avenue  
Augusta, ME 04330

202 Harlow Street  
Bangor, ME 04401

125 Forest Avenue  
Portland, ME 04101

### Maryland

900 E. Fayette Street  
Baltimore, MD 21233

6411 Baltimore Avenue  
Riverdale, MD 20840

U.S. Route 50 and  
Naylor Road

Salisbury, MD 21801

**Massachusetts**  
Post Office and  
Courthouse Bldg.

Boston, MA 02109

120 Commercial Street  
Brockton, MA 02401

7 Bedford Street  
Burlington, MA 01803

330 Cocituate Road  
Framingham, MA 01701

385 Main Street  
Hyannis, MA 02601

Post Office Square  
Lowell, MA 01853

212 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Long Pond Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360

Quincy Branch  
47 Washington Street  
Quincy, MA 02169

2 Margin Street  
Salem, MA 01970

74 Elm Street  
West Springfield, MA  
01089

462 Washington St.  
Woburn, MA 01888

4 East Central Street  
Worcester, MA 01603

### Michigan

2075 W. Stadium Blvd.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48106

26200 Ford Road  
Dearborn Heights, MI  
48127

1401 West Fort Street  
Detroit, MI 48233

250 East Boulevard Dr.  
Flint, MI 48502

225 Michigan Avenue  
Grand Rapids, MI 49501

200 South Oisego  
Jackson, MI 49201

Downtown Station  
315 West Allegan  
Lansing, MI 48901

1300 Military Street  
Port Huron, MI 48060

30550 Gratiot Street  
Roseville, MI 48066

200 West 2nd Street  
Royal Oak, MI 48068

1233 South Washington  
Saginaw, MI 48605

### Minnesota

2800 West Michigan  
Duluth, MN 55806

1st and Marquette Ave.  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Downtown Station  
102 S. Broadway  
Rochester, MN 55904

The Pioneer Postal  
Emporium  
133 Endicott Arcade  
St. Paul, MN 55101

### Mississippi

2421-13th Street  
Gulfport, MS 39501

245 East Capitol  
Jackson, MS 39205

500 West Main Street  
Tupelo, MS 38801

### Missouri

315 Pershing Road  
Kansas City, MO 64108

Northwest Plaza Station  
500 Northwest Plaza  
St. Ann, MO 63074

8th and Edmond  
St. Joseph, MO 64501

Clayton Branch  
7750 Maryland  
St. Louis, MO 63105

H.S. Jewell Station  
870 Boonville Ave.  
Springfield, MO 65801

### Montana

841 South 26th  
Billings, MT 59101

### Nebraska

204 W. South Front St.  
Grand Island, NE 68801

700 R Street  
Lincoln, NE 68501

300 East Third Street  
North Platte, NE 69101

1124 Pacific  
Omaha, NE 68108

#### Nevada

1001 Circus Circus Dr.  
Las Vegas, NV 89114

200 Vassar Street  
Reno, NV 89510

#### New Hampshire

South Main Street  
Hanover, NH 03755

955 Goffs Falls Road  
Manchester, NH 03103

80 Daniel Street  
Portsmouth, NH 03801

#### New Jersey

1701 Pacific Avenue  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

3 Miln Street  
Cranford, NJ 07016

Belmawr Branch  
Haag Ave. & Benigno  
Boulevard

Gloucester, NJ 08031

Route 35 & Hazlet Ave.  
Hazlet, NJ 07730

150 Ridgedale  
Morristown, NJ 07960

Federal Square  
Newark, NJ 07102

86 Bayard Street  
New Brunswick, NJ  
08901

194 Ward Street  
Paterson, NJ 07510

171 Broad Street  
Red Bank, NJ 07701

757 Broad Ave.  
Ridgely, NJ 07657

76 Huyler Street  
South Hackensack, NJ  
07606

680 Highway #130  
Trenton, NJ 08650

155 Clinton Road  
West Caldwell, NJ 07006

41 Greenwood Avenue  
Wykoff, NJ 07481

#### New Mexico

Main Post Office  
1135 Broadway NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87101

200 E. Las Cruces Ave.  
Las Cruces, NM 88001

#### New York

General Mail Facility  
30 Old Karner Road  
Albany, NY 12212

Empire State Plaza  
Station

Albany, NY 12220

115 Henry Street  
Binghamton, NY 13902

Bronx General Post  
Office

149th Street & Grand  
Concourse

Bronx, NY 10451

Parkchester Station  
1449 West Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10462

Riverdale Station  
5951 Riverdale Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10471

Throggs Neck Station  
3830 East Tremont Ave.  
Bronx, NY 10465

Wakefield Station  
4165 White Plains Rd.  
Bronx, NY 10466

Bayridge Station  
5501 7th Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11220

Brooklyn General  
Post Office

271 Cadman Plaza East  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Greenpoint Station  
66 Meserole Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11222

Homecrest Station  
2002 Avenue U  
Brooklyn, NY 11229

Kensington Station  
421 McDonald Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11218

1200 William Street  
Buffalo, NY 14240

Rte. 9  
Clifton Park, NY 12065

Downtown Station  
255 Clemens Ave.  
Elmira, NY 14901

1836 Mott Avenue  
Far Rockaway, NY 11691

41-65 Main Street  
Flushing, NY 11351

Ridgewood Station  
869 Cypress Avenue  
Flushing, NY 11385

Old Glenham Road  
Glenham, NY 12527

16 Hudson Avenue  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

185 West John Street  
Hicksville, NY 11802

88-40 164th Street  
Jamaica, NY 11431

Ansonia Station  
1980 Broadway  
New York, NY 10023

Bowling Green Station  
25 Broadway  
New York, NY 10004

Church Street Station  
90 Church Street  
New York, NY 10007

Empire State Station  
350 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10001

F.D.R. Station  
909 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10022

Grand Central Station  
45th St. & Lexington Ave.  
New York, NY 10017

Madison Square Station  
149 East 23rd Street  
New York, NY 10010

New York General  
Post Office

33rd and 8th Avenue  
New York, NY 10001

Rockefeller Center  
Station

610 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10020

Times Square Station  
340 West 42nd Street  
New York, NY 10036

Franklin & S. Main Sts.  
Pearl River, NY 10965

55 Mansion Street  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

1335 Jefferson Road  
Rochester, NY 14692

Rockville Centre Main  
Post Office

250 Merrick Road  
Rockville Centre, NY  
11570

25 Route 11  
Smithtown, NY 11787

550 Manor Road  
Staten Island, NY 10314

New Springville Station  
2843 Richmond Ave.  
Staten Island, NY 10314

5640 East Taft Road  
Syracuse, NY 13220

10 Broad Street  
Utica, NY 13503

143 Grand Street  
White Plains, NY 10602

78-81 Main Street  
Yonkers, NY 10701

**North Carolina**

West Asheville Station  
1300 Patton Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28806

Eastway Station  
3065 Eastway Drive  
Charlotte, NC 28205

301 Green Street  
Fayetteville, NC 28302

310 New Bern Avenue  
Raleigh, NC 27611

**North Dakota**

657 2nd Avenue North  
Fargo, ND 58102

**Ohio**

678 Wolfedges Pkwy.  
Akron, OH 44309

2650 N. Cleveland Ave.  
Canton, OH 44701

Fountain Square Station  
5th and Walnut Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

301 W. Prospect Ave.  
Cleveland, OH 44101

850 Twin Rivers Drive  
Columbus, OH 43216

1111 East 5th Street  
Dayton, OH 45401

200 North Diamond St.  
Mansfield, OH 44901

200 North 4th Street  
Steubenville, OH 43952

435 S. St. Clair Street  
Toledo, OH 46301

99 South Walnut Street  
Youngstown, OH 44503

#### Oklahoma

101 East First  
Edmond, OK 73034

115 West Broadway  
Enid, OK 73701

102 South 5th  
Lawton, OK 73501

525 West Okmulgee  
Muskogee, OK 74401

129 West Gray  
Norman, OK 73069

76320 SW 5th  
Oklahoma City, OK  
73125

333 West 4th  
Tulsa, OK 74101

12 South 5th  
Yukon, OK 73099

#### Oregon

520 Willamette Street  
Eugene, OR 97401

751 N.W. Hoyt  
Portland, OR 97208

**Pennsylvania**

442-456 Hamilton St.  
Allentown, PA 18101

535 Wood St.  
Bathlehem, PA 18016

115 Boylston Street  
Bradford, PA 16701

Beaver Drive Industrial  
Park

Dubois, PA 15801

Griswold Plaza  
Erie, PA 16501

238 S. Pennsylvania Ave.  
Greensburg, PA 15601

10th and Markets Sts.  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

West Avenue and  
Cedar Street

Jenkintown, PA 19046

111 Franklin Street  
Johnstown, PA 15901

Downtown Station  
48-50 W. Chestnut St.  
Lancaster, PA 17603

980 Wheeler Way  
Langhorne, PA 19047

Lehigh Valley Branch  
Airport Rd. & Route 22  
Lehigh Valley, PA 18001

Monroeville Mall Branch  
4039 Northern Pike  
Monroeville, PA 15146

1 W. Washington Street  
Kennedy Square  
New Castle, PA 16101

28 East Airy Street  
Norristown, PA 19401

30th and Market Sts.  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

B. Free Franklin Station  
316 Market Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Penn Center Station  
2 Penn Center Plaza  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

William Penn Annex  
Station  
9th and Chestnut Sts.  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Castle Shannon Branch  
307 Castle Shannon  
Blvd.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15232

McKnight Branch  
McKnight and Seibert  
Roads  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Seventh Avenue &  
Grant Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

59 North 5th Street  
Reading, PA 19603

North Washington Ave.  
& Linden St.  
Scranton, PA 18503

237 South Frazer Street  
State College, PA 16801

7th and Ann Streets  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

South and West Wayne  
Streets  
Wayne, PA 19087

300 S. Main St.  
Wilkes Barre, PA 18701

Center City Finance  
Station  
240 West Third Street  
Williamsport, PA 17703

200 S. George Street  
York, PA 17405

**Puerto Rico**  
San Juan General  
Post Office  
Roosevelt Avenue  
San Juan, PR 00936

Plaza Las Americas  
Station  
San Juan, PR 00938

**Rhode Island**  
24 Corliss Street  
Providence, RI 02904

**South Carolina**  
4290 Daley Avenue  
Charleston, SC 29402

1601 Assembly Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

600 West Washington  
Greenville, SC 29602

**South Dakota**  
500 East Boulevard  
Rapid City, SD 57701

320 S. 2nd Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD 57101

**Tennessee**  
General Mail Facility  
6050 Shallowford Road  
Chattanooga, TN 37401

Tom Murray Station  
133 Tucker Street  
Jackson, TN 38301

501 West Main Avenue  
Knoxville, TN 37901

Colonial Finance Unit  
4695 Southern Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38124

555 South Third  
Memphis, TN 38101

Crosstown Finance Unit  
1520 Union Street  
Memphis, TN 38174

901 Broadway  
Nashville, TN 37202

**Texas**  
2300 South Ross  
Amarillo, TX 79105

300 East South Street  
Arlington, TX 76010

300 East 9th  
Austin, TX 78710

300 Willow  
Beaumont, TX 77704

809 Nuecos Bay  
Corpus Christi, TX 78408

400 North Ervay Street  
Dallas, TX 75221

5300 East Paisano Dr.  
El Paso, TX 79910

251 West Lancaster  
Avenue  
Fort Worth, TX 76101

408 Main Street  
Hereford, TX 79045

401 Franklin Avenue  
Houston, TX 77201

411 "L" Avenue  
Lubbock, TX 79408

601 E. Pecan  
McAllen, TX 78501

100 East Wall  
Midland, TX 79702

10410 Perrin Beitel Road  
San Antonio, TX 78284

2211 North Robinson  
Texarkana, TX 75501

221 West Fergusson  
Tyler, TX 75702

800 Franklin  
Waco, TX 76701

1000 Lamar Street  
Wichita Falls, TX 76307

**Utah**  
1760 West 2100 South  
Salt Lake City, UT 84119

**Vermont**  
1 Elmwood Avenue  
Burlington, VT 05401

151 West Street  
Rutland, VT 05701

**Virginia**  
111 Sixth Street  
Bristol, VA 24201

1155 Seminole Trail  
Charlottesville, VA 22906

1425 Battleground Blvd.,  
North  
Chesapeake, VA 23320

700 Main Street  
Danville, VA 24541

Morrisfield Branch  
8409 Leo Highway  
Fairfax, VA 22116

809 Aberdeen Road  
Hampton, VA 23670

300 Odd Fellows Road  
Lynchburg, VA 24506

Tyson's Corner Branch  
Tyson's Corner Shopping  
Center

McLean, VA 22103

Danhigh Station  
14104 Warwick  
Boulevard

Newport News,  
VA 23602

600 Granby Street  
Norfolk, VA 23501

Thomas Corner Station  
6274 East Virginia Beach  
Blvd.  
Norfolk, VA 23502

1801 Brook Road  
Richmond, VA 23232

419 Rutherford Ave. NE  
Roanoke, VA 24022

1430 North Augusta  
Staunton, VA 24401

London Bridge Station  
550 1st Colonial Road  
Virginia Beach, VA 23454

**Washington**  
Crossroads Station  
15800 N.E. 8th

Bellevue, WA 98008

315 Prospect St.  
Bellingham, WA 98225

2826 West Sylvester  
Pasco, WA 99301

301 Union Street  
Seattle, WA 98101

West 904 Riverside  
Spokane, WA 99210

1102 A Street  
Tacoma, WA 98402

205 West Washington  
Ave.  
Yakima, WA 98903

**West Virginia**  
301 North Street  
Bluefield, WV 24701

Lee and Dickinson St.  
Charleston, WV 25301

500 West Pike Street  
Clarksburg, WV 26301

1000 Virginia Street  
Huntington, WV 25704

217 King Street  
Martinsburg, WV 25401

**Wisconsin**  
325 East Walnut  
Green Bay, WI 54301

3902 Milwaukee St.  
Madison, WI 53708

345 West St. Paul Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53203

**Wyoming**  
2120 Capitol Avenue  
Cheyenne, WY 82001

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